


THE ALTERED DOMINANT

AN ALTERED DOMINANT IS A DOMINANT SEVENTH CHORD (I.E., MAJOR TRIAD+MINOR 7TH) WITH ALL POSSIBLE ALTERATIONS.

"PLAIN" DOMINANT 13TH CHORD (13TH CHORD FUNCTIONS THE SAME AS A 7TH CHORD IN TERMS OF PROGRESSION)

C13

AS A "STACK OF THIRDS"



ROOT 3RD 5TH 7TH 9TH 11TH 13TH

ALL POSSIBLE ALTERATIONS ADDED. THE THIRD MUST REMAIN MAJOR AND THE SEVENTH MINOR TO BE DOM7 QUALITY.

C¹³ALT

A musical staff showing the C¹³ALT scale. The notes are: C (root), D (3rd), E♭ (b5), F♯ (♯5), G (7th), A♭ (b9), B♯ (♯9), C♭ (b11), D♯ (♯11), E♭ (b13), and F♯ (♯13). The notes are grouped into two sets of six, with the first set labeled (MAJOR) and the second set labeled (MINOR).

ROOT 3RD b5 ♯5 7TH b9 ♯9 b11 ♯11 b13 ♯13

(MAJOR) (MINOR)

THE SAME NOTES CAN BE REORDERED AS A SCALE.

WHEN YOU REMOVE DUPLICATE NOTES, THE ONLY ALTERATIONS THAT REMAIN ARE b9, #9, #11, AND b13.

C¹³ALT

A musical staff in treble clef for the C13ALT chord. The notes are: C (labeled ROOT), Bb (labeled b9), Db (labeled #9), Eb (labeled 3RD), Fb (labeled b11, with a note that b11 is crossed out and (=3RD) is written below), Gb (labeled #11), Ab (labeled b5, with a note that b5 is crossed out and (= #11) is written below), Bb (labeled #5, with a note that #5 is crossed out and (= b13) is written below), Cb (labeled b13, with a note that b13 is crossed out and (= 7TH) is written below), and Db (labeled #13, with a note that #13 is crossed out and (= 7TH) is written below). The 7TH is also labeled as Db. There are asterisks above the Bb, Db, Ab, and Cb notes. Arrows point down from the Bb, Db, and Cb notes.

C¹³ALT

A musical staff showing the notes of the C13ALT chord. The notes are C (root), Bb (b9), D# (sharp 9), E (3rd), F# (sharp 11), Gb (b13), and Ab (7th). The notes are written as half notes on a treble clef staff. The 9th and 11th are both sharp, and the 13th and 7th are both flat.

ROOT b9 #9 3RD #11 b13 7TH

THERE ARE 2 EASY WAYS TO SPELL AN ALT CHORD/SCALE. FIRST, YOU CAN RAISE THE TONIC OF A MAJ. SCALE. BELOW IS THE SAME CHORD AS C^b MAJOR, WITH THE TONIC C^b RAISED TO C^b. SOME NOTES ARE ENHARMONICALLY RE-spelled.

C¹³ALT 7

ROOT b9 #9 3RD #11 b13 7TH

THE SECOND ROUTE TO THE ALT CHORD/SCALE IS AS THE SEVENTH MODE OF MELODIC MINOR.

BELOW IS D^b MELODIC MINOR, STARTING ON THE LEADING TONE OF THE D^b MINOR SCALE.

C¹³ALT

A musical staff in treble clef showing the notes of a C13ALT chord. The notes are: C (labeled 'ROOT'), Bb (labeled 'b9'), B (labeled '#9'), Eb (labeled '3RD'), Fb (labeled '#11'), Ebb (labeled 'b13'), and Cb (labeled '7TH'). The notes Bb, B, Eb, and Ebb are marked with an asterisk (*) above them, indicating they are altered extensions. The notes are written as half notes.

ROOT b9 #9 3RD #11 b13 7TH